

Minutes

Judicial Education Committee Meeting

May 21, 2004

1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

National City Center, Room 1071

1. **Committee Members present:** Earl Penrod (Chair), Ted Boehm, Chris Burnham, Barbara Collins, Steve David, Greg Donat, Bob Freese, Barbara Harcourt, Doug Morton, Maggie Robb, Jim Williams, Mike Witte.
2. **Staff present:** Jane Seigel, Cathy Springer, Vicki Davis, and Anne Jordan.
3. **Minutes:** The minutes from the March meeting were approved.
4. **Review of Spring Judicial College**
 - a. Evaluations. The course evaluations were handed out. Most courses received a score in the “6” range (7 being the highest). The variety of courses was appreciated.
 - b. Attendance. The number of ‘no-shows’ was down significantly this year. Over the three-day period, 271 judicial officers attended one or more courses.
 - c. Achievement of objectives: The committee agreed that the conference objectives were attained----attendance was good and the evaluations were positive.
5. **Program Schedule for 2004**
 - a. Graduate Program for Judges, June 6-11. This is the second year of a two- year program. There are two new courses: *Law and Economics* and *International Human Rights*.
 - b. Juvenile Court Judges Annual Meeting, June 24-25. The annual meeting is being held in Indianapolis, and is a collaborative effort between judges and stakeholders in child welfare. It is sponsored in part by the Court Improvement Program.
 - c. Annual Meeting of Judicial Conference, September 22-24. The annual conference is in Evansville (*see item number 6*).
 - d. Annual Meeting of City and Town Court Judges, October 21-22. The committee asked if we would consider sessions on: the role of City and Town Court judges and defendant’s due process rights.
 - e. Pre-Bench Orientation for New Judges and New Judge Orientation: Mike Witte reported that we expect up to 18 new judges. The syllabus for the Pre-Bench orientation, December 8-9, is in place. Committee members were advised that they would be invited to attend a reception on the first day. New Judge Orientation is January 18-21. The committee will draft a recommendation to the Supreme Court that attendance at the January Orientation be mandatory. The intention is to help new judges recognize the importance of orientation as well as provide protection from potential criticism about being out of the office soon after starting the job.
 - f. Winter Conference, December 10. The proposed topic is “Dealing with Diversity.” Some items topics to include were discussed: how different cultural backgrounds affect what people say and how things are interpreted; solving issues

of accommodation; working with the INS from the Consulate's perspective; juror bias and personal bias; ethics session on membership in associations that have a potential social impact. The staff will develop the schedule for the day and will present it to the committee at the July meeting.

6. **Topics for September Judicial Conference.** A tentative conference schedule was distributed. The schedule will also include Early Bird sessions on Wednesday morning. The opening plenary session will likely include a national speaker on diversity in honor of the 50th anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education*. On Thursday morning the opening plenary will be the "business of judging" and will include a JTAC update on the long- range plan of how the system will impact courts. The committee requested that in 2005 we offer an opportunity for judicial officers to do a personal records check to include a status update on their insurance and PERF.
7. **Faculty Development.** The committee discussed including a faculty development course as an early bird session at the September Judicial Conference. The Chair suggested that the committee members help to identify judicial officers as faculty. It was also suggested to have the education committee act as faculty advisors, assisting new faculty in preparation. Other ideas of attracting faculty: ask for nominations by colleagues and invite former judges now in practice to give a "view from the Bar of the Bench." The question was raised whether we adequately use judges from the appellate division to teach. A suggestion was made to employ team teaching, pairing a trial court judge with an appellate court judge.
8. **Additional Items:** The structure of the subcommittees was discussed. Future projects that will need subcommittee work: reviewing the mentor judge program, collaborative training, training court staff and reviewing writing proposals for the Masters Certificate. Chair Penrod reported that the Judicial College subcommittee has received one writing proposal to date.
9. **Next Meeting: Friday, July 16, 1:00-3:30. Please note: The October meeting date has been changed to Friday, October 29, 1:00–3:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Jordan
Program Attorney